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MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Counsel

THROUGH: Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT: S. 3810, H. R. 10667, A Bill to Amend the Act of August 26, 1950, Relating to the Suspension of Employment of Civilian Personnel of the United States in the Interest of National Security.

1. S. 3810 and H. R. 10667 are identical as to content and provide by means of amendment an addition to the Act of August 26, 1950. Subject act, briefly stated, relates to the suspension from employment of civilian personnel of the U. S. in the interest of national security.

2. The objective of these amendments is to alleviate some of the injustices which have resulted from the present security program. Section 1 of the Act of August 26, 1950 requires that, in all cases brought pursuant to it, an officer or employee must be suspended without pay before he may be granted a hearing. This mandatory requirement of suspension may have worked undue hardship on government officers and employees without providing any benefit in the interest of or from the standpoint of national security. The proposals at hand would have the effect of making discretionary, the power of suspension prior to hearing. The Government could, under these amendments, suspend an individual where suspension was considered to be necessary in the interest of national security.

3. Security is perpetually a subject of interest and concern to this Agency and of no less interest, the rights of the individual employee to a just hearing and opportunity for review. Although this Agency possesses Security safeguards through its own legislation and has implementing procedures of its own, as a matter of general interest, it is felt that the present amendments merit our support. Request information as to any future activity relating to the measures at hand.

Signed

Harrison G. Reynolds  
 Director of Personnel

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